

Application No. 09/971,627
Amendment dated December 19, 2003
Reply to Final Office Action dated August 28, 2003

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REMARKS

Claims 1, 35 and 45 have been amended for clarification purposes and claims 12-14, 33 and 34 have been canceled. These amendments are not intended to narrow the scope of these claims. The claims have been rewritten to place them in better form for examination and to further obviate the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejections set forth in the Final Office Action dated August 28, 2003. It is believed that none of these amendments constitute new matter. Withdrawal of these rejections is requested.

Claims 33 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant has canceled claims 33 and 34. Withdrawal of this objection is requested.

Claims 33-36 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant has canceled claims 33 and 34. Claims 35 and 45 have been amended. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

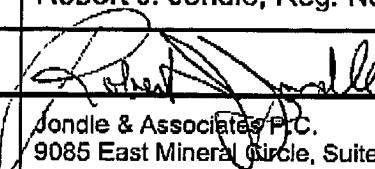
Claims 35-36 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for enablement. Applicant has amended claims 35 and 45. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 12-14, 33-36 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant has canceled claims 12-14, 33 and 34. Claims 35 and 45 have been amended. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the claim satisfies the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §§102, 103 and 112 and is not obvious over the prior art. Reconsideration of this application and early notice of allowance is requested.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,					
NAME AND REG. NUMBER	Robert J. Jondle, Reg. No. 33,915				
SIGNATURE			DATE	December 19, 2003	
Address	Jondle & Associates P.C. 9085 East Mineral Circle, Suite 200				
City	Centennial	State	CO	Zip Code	80112
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	303-799-6444	Fax	303-799-6898